



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Mike Gowrylow
(360) 705-6603

Taxable Retail Sales Increase 9.3 Percent in 2005; Biggest Gain Since 1990

OLYMPIA, Wash., May 10, 2006 — Taxable retail sales increased 9.3 percent in 2005, the Washington State Department of Revenue reported today. It was the biggest year-over-year gain since sales rose 9.8 percent in 1990.

Taxable retail sales totaled \$101.37 billion during 2005, compared to \$92.72 billion for 2004. Retail trade was up 8.1 percent to \$45.97 billion. Retail trade tracks sales at retail outlets and excludes such volatile sectors as contracting.

Construction comprised 18 percent of all taxable retail sales, followed by new and used car dealers at 9.3 percent and general merchandise stores 8.8 percent. Restaurants, food services and drinking places accounted for 7.6 percent, while wholesale trade of durable goods was 6.5 percent.

Among the largest counties, King County experienced an 8.4 percent increase in overall taxable retail sales to \$39.95 billion, Pierce County was up 11.3 percent to \$11.27 billion, Snohomish County rose 12.8 percent to \$9.72 billion, Spokane County was up 7.9 percent to \$6.65 billion, and Clark County climbed 12.7 percent to \$4.58 billion.

Among cities, Seattle's sales climbed 10.6 percent to \$14.23 billion, Bellevue was up 11.6 percent to \$4.74 billion, Tacoma rose 10.1 percent to \$4.22 billion, Spokane increased 5.7 percent to \$3.48 billion, and Vancouver climbed 11.5 percent to \$2.48 billion.

Complete results for all counties and selected cities, including breakdowns of sales by industry sector, are available online at <http://dor.wa.gov/content/statistics/2005/qbrcal05/default.aspx>. Figures for all cities are at <http://dor.wa.gov/content/statistics/TID/StatisticsReports.aspx?query=qbrnaics>.

To inquire about the availability of this document in an alternate format for the visually impaired, please call (360) 705-6715. Teletype (TTY) users please call 1-800-451-7985.

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY COUNTY

All Taxable Retail Sales*

Retail Trade Only**

	Calendar 2004	Calendar 2005	Change	Calendar 2004	Calendar 2005	Change
Adams	164,589,219	162,277,391	-1.4%	57,211,774	59,543,149	4.1%
Asotin	159,279,308	166,171,784	4.3%	81,170,681	82,618,177	1.8%
Benton	2,081,376,797	2,226,436,260	7.0%	1,092,387,656	1,152,180,125	5.5%
Chelan	1,136,930,505	1,223,125,472	7.6%	519,953,805	568,091,631	9.3%
Clallam	895,866,233	958,031,755	6.9%	413,119,312	467,798,319	13.2%
Clark	4,063,402,358	4,581,235,929	12.7%	1,725,399,237	1,954,691,573	13.3%
Columbia	30,401,678	28,898,440	-4.9%	8,161,080	9,018,369	10.5%
Cowlitz	1,095,614,086	1,278,608,768	16.7%	565,939,871	658,638,856	16.4%
Douglas	350,764,614	361,857,987	3.2%	189,843,066	200,307,159	5.5%
Ferry	31,572,331	32,305,138	2.3%	10,698,411	12,227,291	14.3%
Franklin	828,361,101	862,138,345	4.1%	343,851,198	354,781,235	3.2%
Garfield	15,074,353	17,285,325	14.7%	7,223,955	7,913,893	9.6%
Grant	800,596,329	872,602,386	9.0%	358,245,398	392,829,020	9.7%
Grays Harbor	703,530,539	807,922,711	14.8%	348,650,786	377,189,136	8.2%
Island	685,995,984	767,731,151	11.9%	286,514,308	323,192,060	12.8%
Jefferson	337,651,428	368,922,892	9.3%	106,143,583	117,204,711	10.4%
King	36,848,012,362	39,951,928,499	8.4%	15,255,483,018	16,304,194,019	6.9%
Kitsap	2,970,705,582	3,196,322,900	7.6%	1,626,438,660	1,715,650,071	5.5%
Kittitas	538,556,478	601,941,258	11.8%	186,665,849	208,436,329	11.7%
Klickitat	140,387,983	126,355,738	-10.0%	30,623,635	32,891,447	7.4%
Lewis	895,313,446	1,007,029,260	12.5%	420,120,902	454,143,118	8.1%
Lincoln	71,443,895	70,005,384	-2.0%	24,773,480	24,278,168	-2.0%
Mason	432,432,167	463,562,468	7.2%	191,478,371	204,511,118	6.8%
Okanagan	343,582,246	381,007,957	10.9%	167,335,419	182,251,750	8.9%
Pacific	161,506,787	189,760,173	17.5%	52,418,610	58,363,079	11.3%
Pend Oreille	65,071,262	84,647,501	30.1%	21,151,675	23,733,479	12.2%
Pierce	10,123,073,882	11,266,230,629	11.3%	5,097,699,168	5,573,548,357	9.3%
San Juan	313,399,888	344,133,627	9.8%	78,512,877	90,153,254	14.8%
Skagit	2,028,517,170	2,192,208,356	8.1%	1,148,917,184	1,241,634,088	8.1%
Skamania	71,810,496	86,928,509	21.1%	13,414,818	13,968,394	4.1%
Snohomish	8,614,231,593	9,716,521,668	12.8%	4,381,317,751	4,885,942,754	11.5%
Spokane	6,164,481,335	6,650,436,602	7.9%	3,148,315,374	3,332,605,694	5.9%
Stevens	272,281,707	308,535,431	13.3%	138,434,427	154,816,986	11.8%
Thurston	3,274,629,900	3,624,052,873	10.7%	1,614,608,070	1,754,166,328	8.6%
Wahkiakum	19,755,509	20,255,043	2.5%	4,461,722	4,999,626	12.1%
Walla Walla	570,735,778	648,203,181	13.6%	252,081,322	271,163,495	7.6%
Whatcom	2,603,023,866	2,851,875,217	9.6%	1,235,492,360	1,347,767,867	9.1%
Whitman	403,670,557	366,249,168	-9.3%	125,458,925	133,429,213	6.4%
Yakima	2,411,522,348	2,503,736,875	3.8%	1,182,770,097	1,214,882,516	2.7%
TOTALS	\$92,719,153,100	\$101,367,480,051	9.3%	\$ 42,512,487,835	\$ 45,965,755,854	8.1%

*All taxable retail sales includes retailing, services, contracting (construction), manufacturing, transportation, communications, utilities, wholesaling, finance, insurance, real estate and others. Sales taxes from contracting can be highly volatile.

**Retail Trade includes taxable sales of building materials and hardware, general merchandise, food, auto dealers, apparel, furnishings, eating/drinking places, and miscellaneous retail stores. This figure better represents consumer purchases.

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY SELECTED CITIES

	All Taxable Retail Sales*			Retail Trade Only**		
	Calendar 2004	Calendar 2005	Change	Calendar 2004	Calendar 2005	Change
Aberdeen	358,604,013	394,559,858	10.0%	235,298,943	252,686,974	7.4%
Auburn	1,621,633,884	1,683,714,230	3.8%	791,767,566	859,106,828	8.5%
Bellevue	4,252,105,515	4,744,045,120	11.6%	2,239,134,839	2,409,000,675	7.6%
Bellingham	1,794,901,761	1,925,035,240	7.3%	986,264,657	1,074,419,914	8.9%
Bremerton	683,404,079	702,144,969	2.7%	383,691,272	403,472,459	5.2%
Camas	133,968,918	156,024,780	16.5%	37,324,056	40,822,422	9.4%
Centralia	238,199,787	248,660,675	4.4%	114,643,260	119,549,662	4.3%
Chehalis	344,468,722	379,418,073	10.1%	221,985,568	233,895,174	5.4%
Colville	150,235,518	161,944,997	7.8%	97,527,043	108,670,818	11.4%
Des Moines	195,275,830	196,847,032	0.8%	53,371,617	60,596,191	13.5%
Edmonds	505,580,407	543,637,954	7.5%	254,331,392	269,405,910	5.9%
Ellensburg	327,571,297	364,612,095	11.3%	144,712,852	156,658,060	8.3%
Everett	2,113,894,572	2,350,959,737	11.2%	1,061,027,501	1,140,989,506	7.5%
Federal Way	1,190,030,058	1,290,164,509	8.4%	652,567,975	674,426,555	3.3%
Fife	727,762,671	850,721,277	16.9%	504,632,339	558,685,843	10.7%
Issaquah	1,064,407,465	1,150,626,662	8.1%	560,744,576	602,184,716	7.4%
Kelso	211,389,575	216,136,037	2.2%	117,893,246	128,475,165	9.0%
Kennewick	1,232,632,356	1,277,295,318	3.6%	753,764,240	794,762,754	5.4%
Kent	2,263,708,358	2,321,254,525	2.5%	917,203,552	986,381,277	7.5%
Kirkland	1,449,619,532	1,676,563,157	15.7%	748,704,998	800,193,447	6.9%
Lacey	620,867,090	763,330,219	22.9%	326,345,165	361,999,663	10.9%
Longview	608,180,249	703,472,918	15.7%	347,819,617	408,101,954	17.3%
Lynnwood	1,884,971,270	2,005,221,564	6.4%	1,274,228,430	1,379,873,106	8.3%
Marysville	447,095,196	502,340,255	12.4%	193,492,384	225,802,772	16.7%
Mercer Island	242,596,842	285,608,824	17.7%	42,513,121	46,631,388	9.7%
Moses Lake	393,905,075	439,470,148	11.6%	207,984,491	239,914,454	15.4%
Mount Vernon	523,805,595	552,686,116	5.5%	283,549,763	308,868,974	8.9%
Mountlake Terrace	140,229,072	154,315,799	10.0%	50,508,339	54,591,748	8.1%
Oak Harbor	302,893,062	328,250,193	8.4%	163,588,818	186,659,280	14.1%
Olympia	1,669,401,469	1,744,047,109	4.5%	922,929,390	992,019,539	7.5%
Omak	112,068,074	123,079,507	9.8%	79,979,245	84,272,914	5.4%
Pasco	747,240,717	781,596,534	4.6%	326,824,621	335,942,982	2.8%
Port Angeles	330,118,776	324,240,481	-1.8%	136,448,830	140,630,465	3.1%
Port Townsend	161,409,306	180,221,075	11.7%	58,013,576	61,054,196	5.2%
Pullman	299,871,863	264,751,271	-11.7%	93,793,847	99,273,393	5.8%
Puyallup	1,566,438,447	1,697,307,044	8.4%	1,073,417,641	1,147,328,174	6.9%
Redmond	1,734,817,524	1,856,552,387	7.0%	666,655,996	684,328,946	2.7%
Renton	1,853,297,141	1,951,188,125	5.3%	1,022,600,351	1,082,186,256	5.8%
Richland	614,555,172	686,413,519	11.7%	281,853,604	292,003,459	3.6%
SeaTac	873,128,857	938,960,134	7.5%	52,836,339	84,196,244	59.4%
Seattle	12,868,301,227	14,231,317,268	10.6%	4,388,472,429	4,767,220,436	8.6%
Shelton	189,657,047	196,029,267	3.4%	103,636,466	109,909,646	6.1%
Spokane	3,291,452,322	3,478,986,736	5.7%	1,612,582,222	1,690,217,395	4.8%
Sunnyside	219,081,773	219,763,583	0.3%	128,002,297	124,221,907	-3.0%
Tacoma	3,832,667,816	4,218,012,058	10.1%	1,872,319,236	2,057,722,561	9.9%
Tukwila	1,844,654,350	1,917,878,233	4.0%	1,149,982,455	1,147,733,993	-0.2%
Vancouver	2,224,796,602	2,481,175,554	11.5%	999,182,906	1,121,472,059	12.2%
Walla Walla	418,873,639	475,452,652	13.5%	184,611,645	197,888,140	7.2%
Wenatchee	690,902,992	715,119,428	3.5%	362,660,463	395,419,903	9.0%
Yakima	1,307,845,725	1,350,618,320	3.3%	659,507,950	687,667,121	4.3%

*All taxable retail sales includes retailing, services, contracting (construction), manufacturing, transportation, communications, utilities, wholesaling, finance, insurance, real estate and others. Sales taxes from contracting can be highly volatile.

**Retail Trade includes taxable sales of building materials and hardware, general merchandise, food, auto dealers, apparel, furnishings, eating/drinking places, and miscellaneous retail stores. This figure better represents consumer purchases.